

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 1, 2005

## **Line breaks at city waste water pump station**

A portion of a waste water main line has ruptured near Hewlett's Creek pumping station #34, located at 5915 Pine Grove Drive. The line pumps waste water from homes in the Greenville Loop area to the Southside Waste Water Treatment Plant. City officials estimate that the rupture occurred sometime in the early morning hours.

There is no threat to drinking water and waste water services have not been interrupted. However, as a precaution, the city recommends that citizens not fish or swim in the Hewlett's Creek area until further testing can be done.

City crews remain onsite stabilizing the area near the pump station, which is where the line broke. "We recognize that this is a significant spill and we are doing everything we can to repair the line as quickly as possible," said City Manager Sterling Cheatham. The city will issue another update later today when more information becomes available.

The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) and the New Hanover County Health Department have been notified. For more information, contact Public Utilities Director Hugh Caldwell at 341-7805 or Ken Vogt, waste water treatment superintendent, at 341-7890.

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For more information, contact Public Information Officer Malissa Talbert at 342-2736 or 470-8720.

*Note: House Bill 1160, which the North Carolina General Assembly enacted in July 1999, requires that municipalities, animal operations, industries and others who operate waste handling systems issue news releases when a waste spill of 1,000 gallons or more reaches surface waters.*

*In accordance with that regulation, this news release has been prepared and issued to media in the affected area.*